

FEEDBACK OF LEARNING FROM STUDY VISIT

By: IWRM-Empowered

MEMBERS:

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Sectoral Perspective in the Laguna de Bay Basin

The Organization of Women Fishers and Rafters in Lake Pandin (19 members)

- Environmental degradation is tantamount to the degradation of women as it will deprive them a better quality of life and healthy environment for their families particularly the children. As such, protecting the resource that provides them with livelihood is not only important but a way of life.
- It is in protecting the resource that they depend upon that they can secure the future of their families.

Problems, Barriers, Challenges and Needs

- Privatization of lands around Lake Pandin which threaten the securing of right of way for the access road
- Buffer zone/easement is not properly delineated/identified
- Unclear mandate as to legitimacy of the organization's existence
- Inadequate capacity to operate as a business enterprise for accountability, transparency and sustainability
- Occasional fishkills

IWRM Process

1989 - Creation of Resource Management Council (RMC)

1995 - Establishment of aqua-structure for growing tilapia in Pandin Lake

1998 - Enactment of Fisheries Code of the Philippines (RA 8550)

1999 – Adoption of RA 8550 which transformed RMC into Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Management Council (FARMC) in each of the 7 Crater Lakes including Pandin Lake

2000 to 2004 - Fish observed not growing well in Pandin; FARMC started reducing aqua-structure

2005 to 2012 - Organization of women organization for operating rafts for tourists through NGO support to augment family needs while protecting the lake

- Informal recognition of the existence of women's group by the city government and the Inter-Agency Committee

2013 - Recognition of the “ad hoc” status of the organization – not sustainable management

2014 - Development of Master Plan for Pandin Lake

Solution – Way of Stakeholder Involvement and Coordination Improvement

- Proper solution or coordination with proper agencies/institutions that will support them in securing the needed right of way for the access road going to Pandin Lake
- Delineation/identification of easement or buffer zone with LLDA/DENR support
- The organization has to be registered with the SEC or CDA to gain recognition from the City Council as a legitimate organization
- Capacity building/ strengthening of the officers and members on natural resource management, eco-tourism management, organizational development, business planning, marketing, financial management among others

Conclusion

“Key for success” in Lake Pandin

- Women being in the forefront of lake management in the area –intrinsic care and nurturing
- Support of LGUs and NGOs
- LLDA presence/supervision – introduction/ adoption of IWRM concept and process in the overall management of the lake